

## TXDOT HOLDING PUBLIC MEETING FOR COUNTRY CLUB ROAD WIDENING

TxDOT is proposing a roadway expansion for Country Club Road (FM 1378) from Parker Road north to Stacy Road and will be holding a public meeting to gather input from residents. This meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 5, 2022 from 6 to 8 pm at Lovejoy High School in the cafeteria. TxDOT's goal for the expansion is to reduce congestion and improve safety on this roadway.

The proposed improvements include a four-lane divided, concrete roadway with a raised median to replace the existing two-lane asphalt road. Lucas City Council and staff have been in discussion with TxDOT to ensure that any project resulting from this process reflects what is best for the Lucas community and considers all of the available alternatives. More information on this meeting can be found on the City website at [www.lucastexas.us](http://www.lucastexas.us). A virtual option will also be available for the public meeting.

## NEW HOURS FOR PERMITTING AND UTILITY BILLING

City Hall continues to be open from 8 am to 5 pm; however, if you require in-person service from Utility Billing or the Permitting desk, their new hours of service will be from 8 am to 4 pm remaining open during the lunch hour to meet peak demand.

## PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES

### MCGARITY STEM REPLACEMENT A SUCCESS



It takes careful planning and a thoughtful execution to bring pieces of water systems out of service for major repairs. This was the case with the stem replacement at the McGarity Water Tower, which was successfully returned to service on March 4 following one week of working around the clock to both meet project deadlines and keep the water system working without the tower.

Work began on the McGarity stem replacement on February 25. In addition to storage, water towers regulate pressure by taking in water as demand falls and releasing water as

demand rises. Too much pressure can burst pipes and too little pressure can lead to unsafe water. To compensate during the repair, Public Works installed Pressure Relief Valves (PRV) throughout the city to allow excess pressure to escape from fire hydrants as needed. These valves helped water operators to hold pressure between 35 and 60 psi throughout the project, well within the safe operating range.



The Legacy 4-H Club has created a seed library that will be located at City Hall. This seed library offers a wide variety of open-pollinated and heirloom seeds, non-genetically modified fruit, vegetable, herb, and flower seeds available to the community free of charge. The seed library inventory changes throughout the year based on donations, availability, and popularity, so check back often.

Donations are welcome. In order to become sustainable, donations from your garden are encouraged. Please complete the donation form located by the seed library or go to the City website for a printable form. Always choose the healthiest and disease-free crops for donations. Donated seeds will be added to the collection at the discretion of the seed library managers.

## INTRODUCING THE LUCAS SEED LIBRARY BY LEGACY 4-H

The Legacy 4-H Club has created a seed library that will be located at City Hall. This seed library offers a wide variety of open-pollinated and heirloom seeds, non-genetically modified fruit, vegetable, herb, and flower seeds available to the community free of charge. The seed library inventory changes throughout the year based on donations, availability, and popularity, so check back often.

The seed library is located near the front lobby at City Hall. Simply choose which seed you would like to "check-out" from the collection and record them on the check-out binder, which will allow us to know which items need to be filled next. Please limit to two packets per day per patron to allow all visitors a chance to use the seed library.

Donations are welcome. In order to become sustainable, donations from your garden are encouraged. Please complete the donation form located by the seed library or go to the City website for a printable form. Always choose the healthiest and disease-free crops for donations. Donated seeds will be added to the collection at the discretion of the seed library managers.

### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT: KEEPING LUCAS CLEAN

Metal work on the stem began on February 26. Metal workers cut the stem out with angle grinders. They then welded the new stem on-site, in segments, from top to bottom. They finished the install at 3 am on March 3. The tower was then filled with hypochlorinated water for 12 hours as a means of disinfection, flushed, re-filled and had samples tested at the NTMWD Lab before being returned to service at 3 pm March 4. Water service has since returned to normal.

Effective stormwater management is an important part of keeping Lucas clean, safe, and healthy. If left unmanaged, stormwater can cause home flooding, stagnant water, and downstream pollution. Lucas relies on open channels, often called ditches, to carry the vast majority of stormwater. These channels can fill to the brim during heavy rains and may take several days to fully drain. Property owners are normally required to maintain the drainage on their property to ensure that it flows properly. This includes cleaning out their driveway culverts, cleaning up debris and repairing any damage to the channel. Anything other than rainwater entering the drainage system is a stormwater pollutant. This includes yard waste, loose dirt, trash, chemicals, animal waste or anything else that may clog culvert pipes or pollute Lake Lavon. Should you notice any storm water pollution, please report this to [Engineer@lucastexas.us](mailto:Engineer@lucastexas.us) or call 972.912.1209.

# LUCAS LEADER



A publication of the City of Lucas

[www.lucastexas.us](http://www.lucastexas.us)

April 2022



### MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By Jim Olk

Just as COVID seems to be loosening its grip on us, we are now dealing with \$4.00 a gallon for gas, \$5.00 a gallon for diesel, an 8% inflation rate, and some of our staple grocery items are "out of stock." Lately our day-to-day struggles are so significantly impacted by things that are so far out of our control it is really hard to grasp where

the effects will be felt next.

I guess... I wanted to emphasize with each of you and to let you know that we, the City of Lucas, are going through the same battles. Each employee, each elected official, each committee member, and each volunteer, are all feeling those same pressures and deal with all of the uncertainties that seem to keep coming. Where I see the silver lining in this cloud is that we understand what you are going through and I am confident that as we move Lucas forward, we will do it with you in mind. As we begin our look at the City budget, where we prioritize our capital improvements (streets, water lines, bridges, and drainage), how we maintain or improve our services, and just how we respond to you, we will be sure to look at how these decisions impact all of us.

So, in these times of uncertainty, feel confident that the City of Lucas is behind you and as always, we are open to listen to your ideas, comments, concerns and want to be with you as we are all neighbors.

Thanks for allowing me to serve the City of Lucas, my neighborhood.

### CITY OF LUCAS GENERAL ELECTION CANCELLED

The City of Lucas General Election scheduled for May 7, 2022, has been canceled due to there being no opposition in the race for City Council Seats 5 and 6. Incumbents Councilmember Debbie Fisher, Seat 5 and Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele, Seat 6 are declared elected and will be sworn in at the May 19, 2022, City Council meeting.

While the City of Lucas General Election has been canceled, there will be other items on the ballot for the May 7 election. Two statewide Constitutional Amendments will be on the ballot, as well as items for Lovejoy ISD and Allen ISD. The Lucas Community Center will host early voting from April 25 through May 3. Election voting times will be posted in next month's newsletter. For more information on voting, visit the Collin County Election website at <https://www.collincountytx.gov/elections/Pages/default.aspx>.

### NEW START TIME FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

On March 3, the City Council voted to change the start time of Lucas City Council meetings from 7 pm to 6:30 pm to maximize time and improve efficiency. City Council meetings are held the first and third Thursday of each month at Lucas City Hall. City Council meetings are available via Zoom and live streaming. These changes will take effect on May 5, 2022.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

The City continues to use Zoom to allow for remote public participation. To download a video conferencing link, go to <https://www.lucastexas.us/zoom-link-for-city-council-board-meetings/>.

- April 7** City Council Meeting  
City Hall | 7 pm
- April 14** Planning and Zoning Meeting  
City Hall | 7 pm
- April 21** City Council Meeting  
City Hall | 7 pm
- April 27** Board of Adjustment  
City Hall | 6:30 pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 2** Keep Lucas Beautiful Cleanup  
Community Park | 9 am - 1 pm
- April 9** Lucas Farmers Market  
Community Park | 8 am - Noon
- April 15** Good Friday  
City Offices Closed
- April 23** Lucas Farmers Market  
Community Park | 8 am - Noon
- April 24** Local Chicken Coop Tour  
Self-guided in Lucas  
2 - 6 pm
- May 7** Election Day  
Community Center | 7 am - 7pm
- May 7** Complete Customs Lucas Car Show  
Creekwood United Methodist Church  
261 Country Club Road, Allen  
8 am - Noon
- May 14** Founders Day & Farmers Market  
Community Park  
Farmers Market | 8 am - Noon  
Founders Day | 9 am - 1 pm
- May 28** Lucas Farmers Market  
Community Park | 8 am - Noon
- May 30** Memorial Day  
City Offices Closed

## LUCAS FARMERS MARKET SPECIAL EVENTS

by Farmers Market Chairman Bill Esposito

The Farmers Market season has arrived! April is upon us and our Farmers Market is getting ready to kick into high gear. Each market will have a special event or program under the Pavilion. The Farmers Market is kicking Spring off with some great ideas for your home and backyard.

### April 9 - Plant Sale and Backyard Gardening 101

Bluebonnet Country Garden Starts will feature a huge plant sale with hundreds of vegetables, herbs, heirloom varieties, hybrids, plants, and more that will thrive in the North Texas climate. The event will have experts on hand from Collin County Master Gardeners to answer all your gardening questions. Texas Pure will be present and have examples of different soils and mulches for use in your gardens and where to get this organic black gold! A special presentation will be held at 10:30 am hosted by Sherrian Jones, the Operations Manager for Texas Pure and is a Collin County Master Gardener. Sherrian will be hosting this special presentation on Gardening 101, Raised Bed Gardening, and will discuss soil types and conditions in North Texas.



### April 23 - Flock Talk with Cathy Gleason

Get an up-close encounter with chickens as local chicken expert Cathy Gleason hosts a special session on raising backyard chickens, predator protection, egg care, and address any questions you may have. The event will be at 9 am and 11 am inside the Community Center. Following the session, attendees can pick up a flyer with addresses for a chicken coop tour occurring the following day, April 24 from 2 pm to 6 pm.

### April 24 - Lucas Loop d'Coop Tour

Following the Flock Talk with Cathy Gleason, folks can get a hands-on tour of several local coops in the Lucas area. This one-day, self-guided tour of private coops around town has been organized by volunteers and coop owners. People of all ages are welcome to attend. Please no pets during the chicken coop tour. The tour will be on Sunday, April 24 starting from 2 pm to 6 pm.



## 2022 SERVICE TREE AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to Gary Johnson and Tammy Duke, 2022 recipients of the City of Lucas Service Tree Award. The Service Tree Award program was established in 2015 to recognize individuals or groups who have contributed a significant and useful service to the community.

**Gary Johnson** was honored for his dedication, compassion and guidance to Lucas Fire-Rescue and the community, volunteering over 23,000 hours as a Firefighter, Captain, and Chief Engineer with Lucas Fire-Rescue. Gary retired on September 30, 2021 after 20 years of exceptional service to Lucas. A Service Tree will be planted at the Lucas Fire Station in Gary's honor.

**Tammy Duke** was honored for her commitment to serving the Lucas community as a member of the Legacy 4-H Club and having coordinated numerous charitable and volunteer activities throughout the community, as well as dedicating her time to mentor and inspire multiple generations of citizens within Lucas.

Both recipients will be presented with a plaque during Founders Day festivities on Saturday, May 14. A tree will be planted in Gary's honor at the Lucas Fire Station and in Tammy's honor at the Lucas Community park.



The City will be holding Founders Day from 8 am to 1 pm on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at the Lucas Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road. Founders Day will feature a parade, mini golf, stick horse rodeo, pony hop derby, historical exhibit, silent auction by Legacy 4-H Club, and the Lucas Farmers Market. There will also be carnival games including balloon pop, calf roper, football pass, basketball hoop shot, ring the longhorn, and soda bottle ring toss. In-N-Out Burger will be providing free meals to the public. Visitors will have the option to purchase specialty hot dogs, ice cream, and other ready to eat food.

- **Parade** – If you and/or your group are interested in participating in the parade, submit an online application at: [www.lucastexas.us/2022-founders-day-parade-application](http://www.lucastexas.us/2022-founders-day-parade-application).
- **Volunteer Opportunities** – If you are interested in volunteering at Founders Day, submit an online volunteer registration form at: [www.lucastexas.us/volunteer-registration-form](http://www.lucastexas.us/volunteer-registration-form).
- **Public Parking & Shuttle Service** – Public parking will be available at Willow Springs Middle School where shuttle buses will transport visitors to and from the event. There will be no public parking at City Hall. Visitors must use shuttle service. The parade will be staged at Hart Elementary School. After the parade ends, public parking will be available at Hart Elementary School.
- **Handicap Parking** – Handicap parking will also be available at the schools and the shuttle buses are ADA friendly with lifts. There is a very limited number of handicap parking spaces available at City Hall. To request a handicap parking space at City Hall, please email Assistant to the City Manager Kent Souriyasak at [kent@lucastexas.us](mailto:kent@lucastexas.us). A valid parking placard and/or license plate for persons with disabilities is required. Requests will be made on a first come first serve basis. We encourage all visitors to park at the schools and ride the shuttle to ensure the safety of others.

### Founders Day Event Schedule

Founders Day Begins	8 am
Lucas Farmers Market Opens	8 am
Parade	9:30 am
Service Tree Awards	10:30 am
Stick Horse Rodeo	11 am
Founders Day Ends	1 pm



## KEEP LUCAS BEAUTIFUL SPRING CLEANUP EVENT

The Keep Lucas Beautiful (KLB) Spring Cleanup event will be held on Saturday, April 2 from 9 am to 1 pm. KLB is committed to ensuring the Lucas community remains a clean and beautiful place to live. Here are the specifics for this year's event:

- Sign up online at [www.lucastexas.us/klb-spring-cleanup](http://www.lucastexas.us/klb-spring-cleanup)
- Indicate what area within Lucas you would like to cleanup, such as your neighborhoods, public parks, and other safe areas
- Cleanup supplies can be picked up at City Hall during business hours the week of March 28. Beginning at 9 am the day of the event, free cleanup supplies can be picked up in front of Lucas City Hall at 665 Country Club Road
- During the cleanup event in your chosen area, place all trash bags centrally located together on the side of the road. You may also keep your cleanup supplies or leave them with the trash bags for pickup.
- Beginning at 1 pm, City staff will drive to the pickup locations to collect trash bags.

The City encourages residents to support the KLB Spring Cleanup by participating as a cleanup volunteer at the event. If you have any questions regarding the KLB Spring Cleanup, please contact Assistant to the City Manager Kent Souriyasak at [kent@lucastexas.us](mailto:kent@lucastexas.us) or 972.912.1213.

## COMPLETE CUSTOMS LUCAS CAR SHOW



### COMPLETECUSTOMS

Complete Customs is proud to announce the first Lucas Car Show. This event will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022, at the Creekwood United Methodist Church located at 261 Country Club Road in Allen. Classic cars, custom restomods, lifted trucks, Toyota and Lexus are all welcome to come out and be part of this event. There is a donation entry fee of \$20 to participate. General admission is free, but Complete Customs will be accepting donations throughout this event.

The mission for this event is to raise funds that will go to restoring the City of Lucas' first fire engine known as Ol' Streaker. Parking for cars and trucks entering the show will open at 7 am. The event will be open from 8 am to 12 pm, with awards at 11 am. Additional public parking will be available at the Lovejoy ISD Administration Building located at 259 Country Club Road in Allen and Lovejoy Elementary School at 256 Country Club Road in Allen. This is a family event that will bring back memories and create some new ones! There will be coffee and Shorty's Taco Food truck for food and beverages.

Complete Customs of McKinney and Homes by J. Anthony will be hosting the event sponsored by the City of Lucas. For more information or to enter the car show, call 214.455.7824 or email [Rich@completecustoms.net](mailto:Rich@completecustoms.net).